

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05

COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /077 W

-----063756 272101Z /73

O R 271903Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5516

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 0410

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ECON, NU

SUBJECT: PRIVATE SECTOR STATEMENT OF JAN. 26

1. THE EVENING OF JAN. 26 THE FOLLOWING LEADING NICARAGUAN PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS: THE NICARAGUA DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (INDE), THE NICARAGUAN CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES, THE NICARAGUAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE NICARAGUA CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION, THE CHAMBER OF CUSTOMS AGENTS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND SHIPPERS, THE COTTON GROWERS' COOPERATIVE OF MANAGUA, THE NICARAGUAN ORGANIZATION OF PUBLICITY AGENCIES,

THE NICARAGUAN ASSOCIATION OF AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES DISTRIBUTORS, AND THE ASSOCIATION OF HARDWARE STORES OF NICARAGUA, ISSUED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE:

2. " THE UNDERSIGNED PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS, IN LIGHT OF THE PETITIONS FOR RESIGNATION PRESENTED TO GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA BY THE OPPOSITION PARTIES, AND IN VIEW OF THE GRAVE CRISIS THROUGH WHICH THE COUNTRY IS GOING, UNANIMOUSLY URGE THE PRESIDENT OF THE

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REPUBLIC TO REFLECT PROFOUNDLY, IN A SPIRIT OF PATRIOTIC SELFLESSNESS, ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS THAT WOULD TAKE THE COUNTRY TO A PERMANENT CLIMATE OF PEACE BASED ON JUSTICE, LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY."

3. COMMENT: THE REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO OF THE CHAMBERS REPORTEDLY WENT INTO THE JAN. 26 MEETING PREPARED TO ACCEPT ALMOST ANY LANG-

UAGE EXCEPT AN EXPLICIT CALL FOR SOMOZA'S RESIGNATION. THE RESULT-
ING COMMUNIQUE WAS THEREFORE COUCHED IN SUFFICIENTLY AMBIGUOUS
TERMS SO THAT IT COULD BE INTERPRETED BOTH AS AN IMPLICIT CALL FOR
SOMOZA'S RESIGNATION, OR, AS THE SOMOZA FAMILY NEWSPER NOVEDADES
STATED JAN. 27, AS A DEFEAT FOR THOSE WHO ADVOCATED DEMANDING THE
PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION. ALTHOUGH THE COMMUNIQUE'S AMBIGUOUS LANG-
UAGE WAS ALL THAT THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WERE
WILLING TO SUBSCRIBE TO, IT DID NOT SATISFY THE MORE MILITANT ANTI-
SOMOZA ELEMENTS. A RADIO BROADCAST JAN. 27 REPORTED THAT THE NICA-
RAGUAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (INDE), THE COUNTRY'S MOST IMPORTANT
DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED PRIVATE SECTOR INSTITUTION, HAS SUBSCRIBED TO
THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY (PCN) STATEMENT DEMANDING THE RESIGNATION OF
THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONVENING OF THE CONGRESS TO ELECT A SUBSTI-
TUTE. INDE'S STATEMENT, IF TRUE, MAY INDICATE DIVISION IN THE
PRIVATE SECTOR WHICH MAY DAMPEN FURTHER UNITED ACTION IN THE NATION-
AL WORKSTOPPAGE MOVEMENT.
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